

NEWSPAPERS VERSUS BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES—  
HOW TO MAKE HOMES FOR POOR WOMEN.

The Bowery boys are for men in plain of cheapness. In a stock-driver or commercial traveler can be supplied with a room, neatly kept and freshly furnished, for \$10 a week. As these hotels advertise, there is no reason why women should not have the same, though for different reasons and terms, and with the same liberty. This last is a question, for these hotels are not wanted for shop-girls alone, giddy creatures not fit to be trusted out on guard, but for artists, teachers, pen-women, and the heads of working establishments, many of them ladies, threatened by circumstances. These need homes where seclusion and economy are attainable, for often the woman with an income of \$1,500 a year from her work is more harassed by the claims of those depending on her than the blithe shop-girl who spends her week's earnings on a new ribbon, as she "only works to dress herself." The regulations of most women's boarding-schools are intolerably strict. Doors are shut by 11 p. m. lights must be out half an hour later, washwomen and washerwomen are sent home by half past twelve, and the school is closed. The regulations of a good hotel are sufficiently strict for all purposes. It is not proposed to make a lodging-house a reformatory. All the rules which the code will not keep evil out as effectively as the presence of gay pleasures within. The house must be safe as a good boarding-school, though you may laugh at the comparison. Selecting the attractions which appeal most strongly to popular taste elsewhere, we should say a good orchestra would be a benefit, unless music-teachers were sent to the house to prevent their pupils from the deficit of the dance in the illicit Italian harp and violinists, and have dances in the parlors to their not uncheerful music. Lectures and magic-lanterns are very well in their way, so are stereoscopes; but young, bounding hearts, whose zest for pleasure is all the keener that it must be often repressed, will not content themselves scanning the curves of a bird's flight, or looking at the domes of Jerusalem on a white sheet. They would

## CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

**ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS—HARBOR ENCROACHMENTS.**

The Chamber of Commerce held its 103d annual meeting at No. 63 William-st., yesterday afternoon, Wm. E. Dodge in the chair. The President stated that the Chamber was one of the oldest institutions of the city, and had numbered among its members many active and influential merchants, by whose agency it had obtained an influence throughout the country. It was interesting to know that there were those surviving who had been members for more than 60 years, as N. W. Hicks, H. S. Field, and Messrs. Durand, Hunt, Marsh, Carey, and Stevens.

A motion to abolish the office of Actuary or Assistant Treasurer was adopted after extended debate. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Vice-President, George DeWitt, Walter G. Griffin, William M. Verrill, Samuel D. Balaban; Treasurer, Francis L. Ladd; Secretary, George W. Verrill; Recording Secretary, Charles M. Chapman; Charles H. Russell, C. C. Green, William H. Angell, R. E. Warren, Warren E. Dodge, J. E. Johnson, E. Schult, Hanser, Richard C. Smith, J. E. Johnson, J. H. Taylor, Johnston, Elliot C. Cowles, Henry R. Worthington.

A communication from George W. Hunt was read, alleging that the chances authorized on harbor matters, and especially for private gain through public damage. A bill, he said, brought before the Legislature last year, by which the harbor was proposed to take over four square miles of surface, with an average depth of ten feet, from the capacity of the harbor; this was defeated in the Legislature. A bill was also brought before the next session. A bill was also brought before the New York Legislature to extend three piers south of Fulton Pier 352 feet, increasing the capacity of the harbor by 1,000,000 cubic feet. The great encroachment on the harbor by the New Jersey Central Railroad amounting to over 5,000,000 square feet of surface, is an accomplished fact, and the New York Harbor is now reduced to 100,000,000 cubic feet, which is equal to 100,000,000 pounds of water displaced at every tide. The communication was referred to a committee. The Abolition of the Chamber of Commerce was referred to the Abolition Treasurer for services during the year.

**NIGHT LIFE IN THE SLUMS.**  
**EXPERIENCE OF A TRIBUNE REPORTER IN THE**  
**LODGING-HOUSES AND THIEVING DENS OF**  
**NEW-YORK.**

**ADDS FOR A EUROPEAN TOUR.**

Judy Sullivan, alias Ronch, lets lodgings at No. 21 Baxter-st., in the cellar. Her establishment boasts four rooms, with two beds in each, and three or four lodgers in each bed. The ceiling is only six feet high, and the whole place bears a dilapidated, dirty appearance; yet Mrs. Sullivan is said to have made \$10,000 in this business, and is now traveling in Europe in the hope of curing a pulmonary disease contracted in the pursuit of her calling. During her absence the business is conducted by Mr. Roach, her putative husband, a large, bluff, good-natured-looking Irishman. The rooms are furnished with beds in rows, and the beds square; there is no ventilation, and the rooms were heated by an immense fire, the thermometer ranging at about 80°.

The basement in the rear of No. 28 Baxter-st. contains two rooms, and is kept by a negro called Jack Spicer, an evil-disposed man with one eye—and there are but two beds in the apartments, one for lodgers, and the other for those identified with the establishment—the latter are Spicer and three white women, one not more than 12 years of age. Dark stories are told of transactions in these rooms; robbery of women's voices crying for mercy, and the sounds of blows; and it is alleged that Spicer has served at least one term on Blackwell's Island. The house is owned by a Jew named Phillips, of Bayard-st. and is the rendezvous for thieves and lost women.

A dog fancier, named McCarthy, keeps, at No. 7, Baxter-st., a ruined, tumble-down shanty. His apartments are reached by a broken, miserable stairway, dark and dirty. The air is pregnant with vile odors; though McCarthy

**THE BROOKLYN HAT FACTORY FIRE—LOSSES AND INSURANCES.**

**Fire Marshal Keady** of Brooklyn investigated yesterday the cause of the fire on Wednesday night, by which James H. Prentice & Co.'s hat factory was destroyed. Mr. Prentice made the following statement:

I live at No. 29, 142nd-street, and own the hat factory at Raymond and Willetsburg-avenue, which was burned down last night. I was at the corner of 142nd-street and Broadway at 11 o'clock on Wednesday night, there immediately, and found the main building and some portions of the other buildings in flames. I know nothing about the origin of the fire, but I saw the flames coming from the roof, and from that I believe it caught from friction in the chute-rope. I estimate my loss on stock and machinery at \$100,000; the building at \$50,000; the value is insured for \$172,000, as follows:

City of New York.....	\$50,000	Merchants' Trust Co.....	\$50,000
Fire Association.....	5,000	Albany City.....	2,500
Traders' Ass'n.....	5,000	Atlas of New York.....	5,000
W. A. S. Co.....	5,000	Metropolitan.....	5,000
Staten Island.....	2,500	Central of Buffalo.....	5,000
Central of Hartford.....	5,000	Hoffman.....	5,000
Merchants' Exchange.....	5,000	Car Exchange.....	5,000
Independent, Boston.....	4,000	Commercial of York.....	5,000
Buffalo City.....	5,000	Norwich.....	5,000
Reading Fire & Marine.....	2,500	Frank of Philadelphia.....	2,500
Buffalo Fire.....	5,000	Hope of New York.....	5,000
Merchants', Hartford.....	5,000	City of Hartford.....	5,000
International.....	5,000	City of Hartford.....	5,000
Commercial.....	5,000	City of Hartford.....	5,000
Polish.....	5,000	Cleveland Co. of Cincin.....	2,500
Firemen's Fund.....	5,000		
City of New York.....	5,000		
Sumas.....	5,000	Total.....	\$172,000

The fire broke out and burning fast, and I saw the flames coming from the trough at 11 o'clock. I understood there were a few men working in the factory, but not where the fire occurred. The engine was working on 5th-avenue at 11 o'clock, and I saw it at 11:30. I saw the engine at 11:30, and later than 10 o'clock, and then only in case of some trouble or emergency in the neighborhood.

**ARRAIGNMENT OF THE PUTNAM MURDERER IN  
THE COURT OF OYER AND TERMINER—HIS  
SPECIAL PLEA OVERRULED—THE TRIAL SET  
DOWN FOR NEXT THURSDAY.**

Ex-Judge Stuart said he was not prepared to agree upon a day. He had no doubt but that the prisoner would be able to take care of himself, and would be able to look after his rights and interests. In view of that fact, and out of common respect to those counsel, he would ask that the court defer fixing any time until further notice.

Judge Cardozo—I think a day must be designated for the trial. If the counsel agree upon a day, very well.

District-Attorney Garvin—I shall be entirely satisfied and ready to try this case at any time—no further, a week hence, or in ten days. I have no objection.

The court said that he thought that public justice required that it should be tried immediately. It is one of those cases, it seems to me, in which the interests of the public are so involved that it would be a mistake to suggest that the day be fixed for a week or ten days hence.

Ex-Judge Stuart said that, while public justice required that the case be tried immediately, it was apparent that it was certainly within his Honor's knowledge that a great deal of feeling, perhaps it might be said of passion, was abroad in the community in connection with this case, and that it was very difficult for the administration of public justice that a little time be allowed before submitting the rights of the prisoner to the jury for the feeling of feverish excitement, which, so that he might be able to do justice, despite which the law guarantees, and might indeed have a fair trial. He was content to bring the case before his Honor, at a day to be allowed to go off now without fixing a day, until the friends of the prisoner could get counsel, and until he could be brought into court and can be tried under the circumstances as might and can be arranged.

He then fixed the trial for the first day in his hour of trial here. He said his Honor would not fix any day, and the request, he said, was earnest and sincere. It was due to the uniformity with practice, and it seemed proper in every sense, both for the prisoner and the people.

Judge Cardozo shall allow me that neither rule

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The Chamber of Commerce held its 1034th annual meeting at No. 63 Williams-st., yesterday afternoon, Wm. E. Dodge presiding as the chair. The President stated that the Chamber was one of the oldest institutions of the city, and had numbered among its members many active and influential merchants, by whose agency it had obtained an influence throughout the country. It was interesting to know that there were those surviving who had been members for more than 50 years, as Mr. W. Hicks, H. W. Field, and Messrs. Durand, Hurd, Marsh, Carey, and Stevens.

A motion to abolish the office of Auditor or Assistant Treasurer was adopted after extended discussion. The President, William E. Dodge; Vice-Presidents, George O'Leary, Walter G. Griffin, and Wm. E. Dodge; Secretary, George O'Leary; Executive Committee—A. L. Griffin, Wm. E. Dodge, George O'Leary, Walter G. Griffin, and Wm. E. Dodge; Charles H. Russell, John C. Green, William H. Agnew, Samuel B. Hughes, Edwin D. Morgan, Wilson G. Hunt, John Taylor Johnson, Edith C. Cowles, Howard C. H. Hunt, and George W. Hunt, was read, referring to recent legislation on harbor matters, and alleging that the changes authorized were intended for private gain through artificial means. A bill to amend the New Jersey Legislature at its last session, proposed to take over four square miles of surface, with an average depth of ten feet, from the city of New York, and to lease it to the city of New York. It was stated that it may be passed at the next session. A bill was also brought before the New York Legislature to extend three piers south of Fulton Pier, at the line fixed by law. The great encroachment on the harbor by the New Jersey Central Railroad amounting to over 5,000,000 square feet of surface, is the subject of the bill. The bill also provides for the removal of 20,000,000 cubic feet, which is equal to 160,000,000 pounds of water displaced at every tide. The communication was referred to a committee. The Treasurer for services during the year.

rooms, in the cellar. Her establishment boasts four bedrooms, with two beds in each, and three or four lodgers in each bed. The ceiling is only six feet high, and the whole place bears a dilapidated, dirty appearance; yet Mrs. Sullivan is said to have made \$10,000 in this business, and is now travelling in Europe in the hope of curing a pulmonary disease contracted in the pursuit of her calling. During her absence the business is conducted by Mr. Roach, her putative husband, a large, bluff, good-natured-looking Irishman. The beds are crowded together in rooms not more than ten feet square; there is no ventilation, and the rooms were leased by an immoral man, who has been obliged to leave about two months ago. The basement is in the rear of No. 38, Baxter-st., contains two rooms, and is kept by a negro called Jack Spicer, an evil-disposed man with one eye—and there are but two beds in the apartments, one for lodgers, and the other for those identified with the establishment—the latter are Spicer and three white women, one not more than 15 years of age. Dark stories are told of transactions in these rooms; robbery of women's voices crying for mercy, and the sounds of blows; and it is alleged that Spicer has served at least one term on Blackwell's Island. The house is owned by a Jew named Phillips, of Bayard-st., and is the rendezvous for thieves and lost women.

A dog fancier, named McCarthy, keeps, at No. 7, Baxter-st., a ruined, tumble-down shanty. His apartments are reached by a broken, miserable stairway, dark and dirty. The air is pregnant with vile odors, though McCarthy

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would have other counsel infinitely better able than himself to defend him. He said that he was not a lawyer, and that fact, and out of common respect to those counsel, he would ask that the Court defer fixing any time until further notice for the trial.

Judge Cardozo—I think a day must be designated for the trial. If I designate a day, you will be able to get your otherwise I shall designate a day.

The Court said that he would be entirely satisfied and ready to try this case at any time—to-morrow, a week, hence, or in ten days. I have no desire to urge it on for any particular day, but I think it would be better to require that it should be tried immediately. If it is one of those cases, it seems to me, in which the interests of the prisoner cannot suffer by a speedy trial, it is better to require that it be tried in a few days or ten days hence.

Ex Judge Stuart said that, while public justice always required that the accused should be tried as soon as possible, it was very wise for the community to have a great deal of feeling, perhaps it might be said of passion, was abroad in the community in reference to public justice. It was very wise for the community administration of public justice that a little time be allowed before submitting the rights of the prisoner before a jury to the feeling of fever to subside, and the wisdom of the law and might indeed have a fair trial. He was content to let the case before his Honor, at that time, be allowed to go on without giving a day, until the friends of the prisoner could get counsel, and until he could prepare his defense, and call a such time, and then the trial might be held, as might be, on any day of his trial here. He said his Honor did not to canvass any day, and the request, he said, was earnest and sincere. It was due to the community with practice, and it seemed proper in every sense, both for the prisoner and the people.

Judge Cardozo said that he had no objection that neither would

**THE FORD DIVORCE SUIT ENDED.**  
The old suit of Frederick W. Ford against Mary M. Ford, for divorce, on the ground of adultery, came up, yesterday, in the Special Term of the Superior Court, before Judge McCunn. Counsel for the plaintiff, in opening the case, said that the details would necessarily be obscene, but he should submit them as much as possible. Judge McCunn replied that if the case were so indecent, the case had better be dropped. Counsel on the part of the defendant, then, asked for a continuance of the great expense thereby incurred, which would hardly be met by the person who had caused the case to proceed, remarking that he should exercise his authority in restraining all obscene evidence, and that the trial should have to call upon the defendant to obtain from witnesses, who would discuss propriety.

Officer Carl, Capt. Mills, Capt. Madden, Capt. McDermott, McNulty, formerly sergeant of the fire department, and a clerk in one of the Civil Courts, and Worcester, stationed up